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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 15/09/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik said today, on the occasion of International Day of Democracy that as the world faces this unprecedented COVID-19 challenge, upholding democratic values like participatory decision making and empowering people at grassroots are essential. He said to reaffirm pledge to keep people at core of our strategy to fight the pandemic.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister paid humble tributes to Bharat Ratna M. Visvesvaraya on his birth anniversary, celebrated as Engineers Day. He wished the pioneering contribution of the eminent engineer, inspire our engineers to devote themselves to nation building.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated Sri Harivansh Narayan Singh on being re-elected as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Under his leadership, the August House shall function as true custodian of democratic values and principles enshrined in the Constitution, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister presided over the State Cabinet meeting today. The Cabinet approved the following important decisions:
 - A. Odisha Goods and Service Tax Act shall be amended to provide certain facilities to the tax payers and tax authorities. The scope of ineligibility to opt for composition scheme shall be extended.
 - The Government shall be empowered to prescribe the manner and time limit for taking transitional credit.
 - Government shall extend punishment to a person who causes to commit offence of availing fraudulent Input Tax Credit and also to a person who retains benefit there to, making such offences a cognizable and non-bailable offence.
 - B. Government have taken a decision for construction of High level Bridge over River Subarnarekha at 36th KM on Haladipada (NH-16) in the district of Balasore. The bridge shall provide direct link between Baliapal Block and Bhograi Block and also connect the economically and culturally important places. The proposed Bridge shall be 993.12 metre long and 62.07 metre wide

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and Rs.138,74,48,210/- shall be spent for execution of the work to be completed within 30 months.

C. The Odisha Local Fund Audit Act, 1948 shall be amended. It shall include electronic mode of service surcharge notices and orders on the delinquent Government officers/officials by making the notices and orders etc. available in the HRMS Portal of the State Government in addition to the existing manual mode of service.

➤ Hon'ble Chief Minister today, through a Video Conference reviewed 5T Charter regarding E-Muster Roll and bank payment of wages in all works of line Departments. Under this initiative, Muster Rolls shall be maintained in electronic format so as to prevent manipulation and ensure transparency. Along with this, the wages shall be directly transferred to the bank accounts of labourers in all the works that are being executed by the line departments to ensure stricter monitoring of minimum wages and timely deposit of ESI and EPF dues.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister directed all Departments to have the system in place by 1st January 2021 for universal implementation of E-Muster Roll. He further emphasised upon the use of robust technology in implementing this initiative along with the enabling legal framework. He directed to conduct State level Training and Capacity Building Programme in this regard and extensive IEC for all categories of worker to make them aware of this.

- Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner, Principal Secretaries of different Departments, Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister (5T) and Secretaries of different Departments were present in the Review.

➤ As per direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister, persons who have successfully completed institutional quarantine are being given incentive of Rs.2000/- each. A sum of Rs. 133,74,27,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

➤ From 14th September to 15th September morning, 02 cases have been registered by the Police in the state for violation of different regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19.

Health Update

➤ Up to midnight of 14th September, 25,16,457 samples have been tested.

➤ Number of Positive Cases stands 1,58,650.

➤ 1,22,024 persons have already recovered/ discharged.

➤ No. of Death case 645.

➤ No of active cases are 35,928.

➤ 35,928 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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Information Officer

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